

Griffin's Lair



Y O N D E R

LUXURY MOUNTAIN RENTALS

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Griffin's Lair

Driving Directions and Apartment Access



Y O N D E R

LUXURY MOUNTAIN RENTALS

Directions to the Griffin's Lair

32 All Souls Crescent, Asheville, NC, 28803

Simplest access is via **I-40**: (Other routes can easily be accessed by entering above address into map applications.)

Traveling **Westbound** on **I-40**:

Take Exit 50B (**Hendersonville Rd**, towards downtown Asheville), after exit ramp merges into traffic, stay in left lane (!) & go just past Texas Roadhouse, Shell, & Baymont Hotel on right, and thru 1 light; and then stay in left turn lane & turn left at light onto **All Souls Crescent**, then take 1st left into parking lot, (driving only app. 100 yards after turn), looking for Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, which is "next door".

After turning into shared parking lot, turn to right & you are directly in front of the apartment, and the 2 marked parking spaces will be immediately on your right, labeled:
Parking for Griffin's Lair

Traveling **Eastbound** on **I-40**:

Take Exit 50 (**Hendersonville Rd**), after exiting, turn left at the stoplight at the bottom of the ramp to travel south on **Hendersonville Rd**, (towards downtown Asheville), merge over but stay in left lane (!) & go just past Texas Roadhouse, Shell, & Baymont Hotel on right, and thru 1 light; and then stay in left turn lane & turn left at light onto **All Souls Crescent**, then take 1st left into parking lot, (driving only app. 100 yards after turn), looking for Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, which is "next door".

After turning into shared parking lot, turn to right & you are directly in front of the apartment, and the 2 marked parking spaces will be immediately on your right, labeled:
Parking for Griffin's Lair

There will be orange cones in both the loading zone and your parking space. Please place the cones inside the iron gates while you are in those spaces and replace them in the space to secure your uninterrupted parking when you return.





Access

(If you wish to off-load before parking, there is a marked “Loading Zone” spot right next to the entry gate at the north side of the parking lot.)

After parking, exit your vehicle & you will walk to the right, (as you face the building), to a gate at the far side of the parking lot. You will see the wrought iron gate, & there is a lockbox at the right side of the gate, with your keys to the apartment. The code to the lockbox is: **1-9-3-2** (Additional keys will be inside the apartment.) The keys will be labeled/numbered in the order that you will need them. The key labeled “1” is for the gate access.



Walk up stairs, turn left & proceed to wood arched/arbor gate; unlock gate & proceed to apartment entrance. 2nd wood-gate key is labeled “2”. Apartment key is labeled “3”.



An “Information” book that matches this attachment is available inside the apartment during your stay for additional reference during your stay.

Also, a “Griffin’s Lair User Manual” is also included, with very detailed information about the apartment & all of the electronics, appliances, etc., that you will encounter & use during your stay.

Please remember to lock all doors when out & about enjoying Asheville. (The lower gate stays unlocked between the hours of 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM.

If questions arise, or you run into issues, please contact us at the following number: (888) 699-2987. If you cannot reach us in a reasonable amount of time, please send a text to (828) 552-1984.



Note: As for getting groceries for your stay; app. 2 miles off the freeway, going south on Hendersonville Road (the opposite way you drove after exiting), you will come upon an **Ingles** grocery store on your left in the South Forest Shopping Center, which is the best place to get groceries and such, either on your way in, or going back out after check-in.

Also, for dinner out your first night, please see Page 18 for our favorites that are right outside your doorstep!



Griffin's Lair

Welcome



Y O N D E R

LUXURY MOUNTAIN RENTALS

Griffin's Lair

Welcome

We sincerely hope that you enjoy your stay at Griffin's Lair while visiting Asheville. If you need anything or have any problems, please contact us at the following number: (888) 699-2987. If you cannot reach us in a reasonable amount of time, please text to (828) 552-1984. For EMERGENCIES: call (828) 785-3029. NOTE: this line is ONLY for real EMERGENCIES; use of this for non-emergencies will result in charges to card on file.

We have provided a leather-bound folder that contains a wealth of information about the apartment, its features, and some of the amenities & local attractions. Please take a look and keep for reference during your stay, as it is likely that any questions you may have can be answered in this folder. The folder includes: Yonder WELCOME PACKET & Griffin's Lair USER MANUEL

Lockbox code for arrival: **1-9-3-2**

Please be sure to lock all doors/gates when out & about.

Garbage dumpsters are on the lower level, on the Ruth's Chris side of the building. Replacement bags for garbage & recycling are located in the kitchen, below the sink.

For TV/Cable; please refer to the Griffin's Lair USER MANUEL in the unit. (RedBox location is less than 2 miles away, either at Ingles or Walgreen's.) The controls and options via Harmony Ultimate remotes is fully explained in the "USER MANUEL".

NOTE: If you have issues, there is a secondary remote in the hall cabinet.

There is a landline phone, with long distance service. Coverage is excellent with all cell carriers as well.

We have Internet, via Wi-Fi or Ethernet plug-in:

Wifi: Griffin Wi-Fi

Password: gl3032asc

EXTREMELY important info:

PLEASE refer to the sections in the Guest manual regarding the "**Thermostats**" & the "**Sewer**", and read carefully. We want your stay to be the best, and most enjoyable imaginable, but that takes your help and cooperation too. Our goal is to be proactive in order to insure an AWESOME experience!! ☺

We believe in living "green" and conserving our resources, so please recycle, turn off lights when not in use, and be conscious of setting thermostats & opening/closing doors & windows accordingly.

On behalf of the entire Yonder team, we hope your stay at Griffin's Lair is spectacular, and do not hesitate to let us know if there is anything we can do to make it so!

And if you are enjoying your stay, while here, perhaps you could post a "5-Star" review for us on VRBO! Just follow this link and it should take about 2-5 minutes:

<http://www.vrbo.com/631637/reviews/write>

Have a great visit & come back soon!!



Griffin's Lair

Check-in & Checkout Instructions



Y O N D E R

LUXURY MOUNTAIN RENTALS

Griffin's Lair

Check-in & Checkout

Our goal is to provide all of our guests with an absolutely spectacular experience while staying with us at Griffin's Lair. We are available to address any needs or issues that may arise during your stay, and have reciprocally developed some basic protocols that we request you follow to assist us in providing a 5-star experience to everyone.

Check-in

Check-in time is **4:00 PM**, unless other prior arrangements have been made via Yonder.

Please read through the "manual"/folder provided, which explains most of the systems in the apartment, and will likely answer any questions. Tour the apartment to familiarize yourself with the layout, exits, etc.

Towels and linens have been provided, along with sink hand-soap, and general supplies, etc.

You are staying in a "Downtown" neighborhood, so please be courteous to our business neighbors; while also feeling welcome and free to walk, jog, play & explore the neighborhood & all of Biltmore Village!

Please let us know if you have any questions or issues. (888) 699-2987. For EMERGENCIES: call (828) 785-3029. NOTE: this line is ONLY for real EMERGENCIES; use of this for non-emergencies will result in charges to your card on file.

Checkout

Check out time is **10:00 AM SHARP**.

(We are responsible for cleaning the apartment and preparing for the next guests, so your cooperation is immensely appreciated.)

We may arrive as early as **10:01 AM** to begin cleaning & prep for our next guests, unless prior late checkout arrangements have been made.

When you check out, please consolidate garbage & recycling and place in the dumpsters outside, on the lower level, on the Ruth's Chris side of the building. Additional bags of garbage should be tied up tight, and placed behind the cans if too many accumulate. Do not leave exposed for animals to access. Please set the thermostat (heat) to either "off" or 60 degrees (heat) and the (AC) to either off or to 75 degrees. Don't worry about the laundry; our cleaning crew will take care of it! Please leave towels and washcloths in the bathroom and all linens on the bed

Upon departure, make one last check around the apartment for belongings & make sure all windows & doors are closed & locked. Then lock all doors, exit out the front door, and place the keys back in the lockbox down at the gate.

(Code: 1-9-3-2)

If you enjoyed your stay, then please remember to post a "5-Star" review on VRBO after you return back home. Just follow this link and it should take about 2-5 minutes:

<http://www.vrbo.com/631637/reviews/write>

Have a great visit & come back soon!!



Griffin's Lair

General Information



Y O N D E R

LUXURY MOUNTAIN RENTALS

General Information

At Yonder we want simply one thing; for you to have an AWESOME stay!
The following instructions, rules, words of advice, and “cautionary” info are designed to make your stay safe, carefree and enjoyable. Please use them as valuable information, and in conjunction with just good, old –fashioned common sense. And please remember that this is someone’s home, which we are sharing with you and others for everyone’s enjoyment and benefit. We absolutely want you to have a SPECTACULAR time, and a memorable experience!
THANK YOU!!!

Water & Sewer:

The apartment is on city water for the water supply and city sewer for sewage/water waste handling. Please respect these systems and act in a conservative, eco-friendly manner with usage. We would appreciate the use of water-conscious practices by limiting shower times, turning off water while brushing teeth, etc.
Normal usage will result in absolutely no issues whatsoever.

Sewer:

Like other historical waste disposal systems, the home drain lines have limitations as to “what” waste it can handle. You have to respect this and act in a conservative, eco-friendly manner with usage; specifically we offer the following for clarity, with apologies for blunt and graphic description of unsafe items, (but all of these has occurred in the past):

PLEASE do NOT flush the following down toilets:

NO tampons or other feminine hygiene products

NO Kleenex or facial tissues

NO condoms!

Toilets can handle human waste & toilet paper; that is all.

For the Kitchen sink & garbage disposal.

NO dinner plate waste, scrape into garbage.

NO meat products or bi-products.

NO non-food items. Also, NO fibrous vegetables.

Please use water-conscious practices and be eco-friendly in regard to water consumption, and the length of showers; this will insure the health of the system.

IF the sewer system is OVERLOADED and ABUSED by flushing anything besides toilet paper or human waste, it will back up, and it will require pumping, or other measures. IF this occurs, CALL Yonder IMMEDIATELY.

**** - Remember, if used correctly and not abused, none of this will be of concern or issue in the least, and we simply share this to be proactive, not to alarm you. Be smart & considerate.**

Water:

We are on City water, so there is certainly “unlimited” water usage. However, please do not be wasteful with water usage, but be eco-conscious with usage; examples:

- Do not run the water continuously while brushing your teeth.
- Do not unnecessarily run the kitchen sink while loading DW or doing dishes.
- Do not start a shower running, and then go do something else before showering.



Thermostats:

Heating:

The thermostat for Heat is located on the wall in the Great Room, just outside the Kitchen area. The thermostat is already programmed for a very comfortable setting, but you are free to adjust as you deem for your own comfort. IF you need to turn the temperature down you may do so manually by pushing the “down” arrow, obtaining the desired temperature setting. You can also run the “fan” in the ON position in the warmer months to circulate the air.

Do not set the Heat setting above 75 degrees, for the same reasons as above.

AC:

The thermostat for AC is the same thermostat.

Do NOT turn the thermostat down below 70 degrees on the “Cool” setting; doing so will freeze the system. Any such action will mean a service call and will be deducted from your security deposit. (!!)

Turning the “Fan” setting to “on” vs. “auto” will constantly circulate air while keeping the set ambient temperature.

If you have any issues with heating or cooling, please notify us ASAP.

For both, see Griffin’s Lair USER MANUAL

Trash & Recycling:

Trash:

Trashcan is by the side door. Trash bags are under the sink. Full bags should be tied at top & placed in the garbage outside, on the lower level, on the Ruth’s Chris side of the building. Additional bags of garbage should be tied up tight, and placed behind the cans if too many accumulate. Do not leave exposed for animals to access.

Recycling:

Recycling is via the “Blue Bin”, located outside the kitchen. We recycle everything that is recyclable; glass, plastic, paper, aluminum, etc. You do NOT need to sort anything, simply place all recycle material in the bin.

ONLY recycling should ever be placed in the BLUE bin. Once full, this bin may also be dumped in the Ruth’s Chris garbage beside the building.

Kitchen:

See Griffin’s Lair USER MANUAL



Miscellaneous:

Door locks:

The lockbox code is 1-9-3-2. All gates & doors have a specific key for entry & exit. They are labeled as follows:

- 1 - Main entry gate.
(Please note that this gate is left open during normal business hours.)
- 2 - Decorative wood gate on the upper level.
- 3 - Apartment entry door

Please be sure to keep gates and doors locked at all times for safety & security of belongings and the premises.

TV's/Stereos, etc.:

See Griffin's Lair USER MANUEL

iPod Controls

See Griffin's Lair USER MANUEL

Internet/Wi-Fi

Wifi: Griffin Wi-Fi

Password: gl3032asc

Laundry:

The Laundry is a stacked washer & dryer, with general usage instructions.

Outdoor/Property:

Parking:

There are 2 dedicated/reserved spots labeled ONLY for Griffin's Lair parking. These are yours to use, 24/7, at no additional charge. Both spots are labeled accordingly in the parking lot in front of the apartment. There is also a "loading/Unloading" Zone at the main entry gate that is also labeled accordingly for your convenience.

There will be orange cones in both the loading zone and your parking space. Please place the cones inside the iron gates while you are in those spaces and replace them in the space to secure your uninterrupted parking when you return.

Property/General:

The apartment has a large outdoor patio area where you can enjoy the views and beauty of the surrounding area. Everything inside the arched wood gate/fence is your private area. We border the 8,000-acre Biltmore Estate up the embankment. Biltmore Village is of course, just outside your doorstep as well, beckoning you with shops, restaurants, and more!



In case of Emergency:

First and foremost, in case of an emergency, you can always dial **9-1-1**. Listed below are some local emergency contacts:

FastMed Urgent Care of Asheville

160 Hendersonville Rd
Asheville, NC 28803
(828) 210-2835

Mission Hospital

509 Biltmore Ave
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 213-1111

Asheville Police Department

100 Court Plaza
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 252-1110

Asheville Fire Department

100 Court Plaza
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 259-5636

Yonder Emergency Number

(828) 785-3029

NOTE: this line is ONLY for real EMERGENCIES; use of this for non-emergencies will result in charges to card on file.



Security Deposit:

We obviously collect, (or rather “hold”), a Security Deposit simply to protect our homes & our owner’s investment. I am thrilled to say that we rarely, and I mean RARELY, ever have to charge anyone against such deposit. Almost all of our guests are fabulous and leave the home as nice as they found it, following the basic rules and such, with respect & dignity.

Of the VERY few charges we have had to issue, most of those are more thru acts of “omission” rather than “commission”; i.e., accidentally taking home a pillow or towels, inadvertently losing a set of keys, accidentally breaking something, etc.

IF there are any issues, we will notify you in writing before assessing any charges to your credit card, but do reserve the right to do so per the rental contract. A guest’s liability is also not limited to the Security Deposit amount; all guests are responsible for any and all damage or otherwise during their stay, and are liable to pay any and all amounts due to make the owner whole.

Additional info:

All of these “Rules” and helpful information are solely in place to make yours & everyone else’s stay the best it can be. If you have any questions or run into problems or issues, please do not hesitate to call us; (888) 699-2987

For EMERGENCIES: call (828) 785-3029.

NOTE: this line is ONLY for real EMERGENCIES; use of this for non-emergencies will result in charges to your card on file.

Please refer to “Welcome” letter & “Check-in/Checkout” pages for other related info, & for “Check Out” instructions. Also see the **Griffin’s Lair USER MANUEL** during stay.

And if you are enjoying your stay, while here, perhaps you could post some “5-Star” reviews for us on VRBO? If you are too busy having fun, please remember to post some after you return back home.

Just follow this link and it should take about 2-5 minutes:

<http://www.vrbo.com/631637/reviews/write>

You can also visit and comment on our social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter & Instagram! It is reviews from our valued guests that mean the most to new, prospective guests, so your efforts in doing this are immensely appreciated!

Thank you and have a terrific time at Griffin’s Lair!!!!



Griffin's Lair

Restaurants & Local Attractions



Y O N D E R

LUXURY MOUNTAIN RENTALS

Local Grocery Stores:

Ingles Markets Inc.

780 Hendersonville Rd #79
(828) 274-1174

Earth Fare

66 Westgate Pkwy
(828) 253-7656

Trader Joes

120 Merrimon Ave.
(828) 232-5078

Note: In North Carolina, liquor may only be purchased through ABC (Alcoholic Beverage Control) Stores.

Asheville ABC Store #2

582 Hendersonville Rd
Asheville, NC 28803
(828) 505-3710

Nearby Restaurants

Listed below are several restaurants that would be quick and easy to get to for your first night, or during your stay, and are just down the hill in Biltmore Village.

The Corner Kitchen

(828) 274-2439
3 Boston Way
<http://www.thecornerkitchen.com>

Village Wayside Bar & Grill

(828) 277-4121
30 Lodge Street
<http://www.villagewayside.com>

The Cantina

(828) 505-7682
10 Biltmore Plaza
<http://www.cantinabiltmore.com>

Rezaz Restaurant & Wine Bar

(828) 277-1510
28 Hendersonville Rd
<http://www.rezaz.com>



Our Favorite Local Asheville Restaurants

Breakfast

Early Girl <http://earlygirleatery.com/>

Over Easy <http://overeasyasheville.com/>

Tupelo Honey <https://tupelohoneycafe.com/>

Vortex Doughnuts <http://vortexdoughnuts.com/>

Well-Bred - Biltmore Village <http://www.wellbredbakery.com/>

Biscuit Head – Asheville & West Asheville <http://www.biscuitheads.com/>

Sunnypoint Café – West Asheville <http://sunnypointcafe.com/>

Lunch & Dinner

White Duck Taco <http://www.whiteducktacoshop.com/>

Mamacitas <http://www.mamacitasgrill.com/>

Chestnut <http://www.chestnutasheville.com/>

Doc Cheys <http://www.doccheysasheville.com/>

Table <http://tableasheville.com/>

Rhubarb <http://www.rhubarbasheville.com/>

Wasabi - Sushi <http://wasabiasheville.com/>

Limones (Dinner) <http://www.limonesrestaurant.com/>

Curate <http://www.curatetapasbar.com/>

Plant <http://plantisfood.com/>

Chai Pani - Indian <http://www.chaipaniasheville.com/>

12 Bones <http://www.12bones.com/>

Luella's BBQ <http://luellasbbq.com/>

Corner Kitchen - Biltmore Village <http://www.thecornerkitchen.com/>

Fig - Biltmore Village <http://www.figbistro.com/>

Moe's Original BBQ - Biltmore Village <http://www.moesoriginalbbq.com/>

Rezaz - Biltmore Village <http://www.rezaz.com/>

Ruth Chris – Biltmore Village <http://www.ruthschris.com/>

Stoney Knob Café – Woodfin <http://www.stoneyknobcafe.com/>

9 Mile – Montford <http://ninemileasheville.com/>

Biscuit Head – Asheville & West Asheville <http://www.biscuitheads.com/>

Sunnypoint Café – West Asheville <http://sunnypointcafe.com/>

Admiral (Dinner) – West Asheville <http://theadmiralnc.com/>

Biltmore Cantina - <http://www.cantinabiltmore.com/>

Vinnie's (Dinner) <http://www.vinniesitalian.com/>



Sweets, Coffees and Teas

Vortex <http://vortexdoughnuts.com/>

French Broad Chocolate Lounge <https://frenchbroadchocolates.com/>

The Hop (Ice Cream) <http://thehopicecreamcafe.com/>

Well-Bred - Biltmore Village <http://www.wellbredbakery.com/>

Dobra Tea <http://www.dobrateanc.com/>

Local Attractions

The Biltmore <http://www.biltmore.com>

Grove Park Inn <http://www.groveparkinn.com/Leisure/>

WNC Farmers Market <http://www.ncagr.gov/markets/facilities/markets/asheville/>

Zen Tubing <http://www.zentubing.com/>

The Blue Ridge Parkway <http://www.nps.gov/blri/index.htm>

LaZoom Tours <http://www.lazoomtours.com/>

Navitat <http://www.navitat.com/asheville-nc/>

Asheville's Fun Depot <http://www.ashevillefamilyentertainment.com/>

Amazing Pubcycle <http://amazingpubcycle.com>

Art Connections <http://arttoursasheville.com/#!/home>

Live Music & Shows

The Orange Peel <http://theorangepeel.net>

Jack of the Wood <http://www.jackofthewood.com/>

The Grey Eagle <http://www.thegreyeagle.com>

The Magnetic Field <http://www.themagnetictheatre.org>

Tressa's <http://www.tressas.com>

Another good resource is the Asheville music link:

<http://www.ashevillenc.com/events/music>

Transportation Services

Asheville Transit System (828) 253-5691

1st Class Executive Transportation (828) 258-1623

A Red Cab Company (828) 232-1112

Metro Cab (828) 254-1155

Yellow Cab Company (828) 253-3311

Your Cab (828) 259-9904





Because Nothing Is More Valuable Than Your Time....

Tick-Tock Concierge is the ultimate concierge service providing high level personalized assistance to residential and professional clients throughout North Carolina. All of our guests at Yonder can access Tick-Tock for services that range from Day-to-day errands, grocery shopping, reservations, invitation design and distribution, private or commercial travel arrangements. Tick-

Tocks exemplary customer service and knowledge of the Asheville area is one more resource to make your vacation with us better than you could imagine.

For more information please click on the logo below or here: [Tick-Tock Concierge](#)

Local Breweries

Welcome to "Beer City"! Asheville is known for it's local craft micro brews. For a complete list, visit the link below. We have listed some of our favorites below as well.

Complete List

<http://www.citizen-times.com/story/entertainment/2014/05/22/asheville-breweries-complete-list/2362324/>

Highland's Brewing <http://www.highlandbrewing.com>

Pisgah <http://www.pisgahbrewing.com/>

Asheville Brewing Company <https://ashevillebrewing.com/>

Lexington Avenue Brewery <http://www.lexavebrew.com/>

Wedge Brewing Company <http://www.wedgebrewing.com/>

Wicked Weed Brewing <http://www.wickedweedbrewing.com/>

Thirsty Monk <http://www.monkpub.com/>

Jack of the Wood <http://www.jackofthewood.com/>

Catawba Brewing <http://catawbabrewing.com>

Care to take a tour? Check out Asheville Brews Cruise!

<http://ashevillebrewscruise.com>

Yoga

One Center Yoga <http://www.onecenteryoga.com/>

Asheville Yoga Center <http://youryoga.com/>

Asheville Community Yoda <http://ashevillecommunityyoga.com/>



Ski Lodges

Wolf Ridge Ski Resort

Mars Hill, NC; About 41 minutes (31.2 miles) from Asheville via I-26 W

<http://www.skiwolfridgenc.com>

Cataloochee Ski Area

Maggie Valley, NC; About 55 minutes (40.0 miles) from Asheville via I-40 W

<http://cataloochee.com/index-home.php>

Beech Mountain Resort

Beech Mountain, NC; About 1hr 50mins (80.6 miles) from Asheville via US-221 N

<http://www.beechmountainresort.com>

Sugar Mountain Resort

Sugar Mountain, NC; About 2hrs (94 miles) from Asheville

<http://www.skisugar.com>

Outdoor Activities

Canoeing

<http://www.paddlewithus.com/>

<http://www.exploreasheville.com/what-to-do/outdoor-adventures/water-activities/index.aspx>

<http://www.asheville.com/activities/kayak.html>

Fishing

<http://www.ashevilleanglers.com/>

http://www.ashevillenc.com/area_info/fishing

<http://www.ashevillenc.com/listings/outdoors/fishing>

<http://fishwatermaps.com/>

Mountain Biking

<http://www.mtbikewnc.com/areainfo/introduction.html>

http://www.ashevillenc.com/area_info/biking

<http://www.singletracks.com/php/zipcode.php?radius=25&zip=28801>

<http://www.mtbikewnc.com/trailheads/pisgah-national-forest/pisgah-ranger-district/bent-creek/>



Golf

Asheville has several great golf courses to offer. We have listed a few of our favorites below, but for more inclusive lists, please see the links below:

<http://www.golfholes.com/nc/asheville-golf.htm>

<http://www.golfink.com/golf-courses/city.aspx?dest=Asheville+NC>

Etowah Valley (828) 891-7022

<http://www.etowahvalley.com>

Grove Park (800) 438-5800

<http://www.grovecparkinn.com/golf>

Mount Mitchell Golf Club (828) 675-5454

<http://www.mountmitchellgolf.com>

Reems Creek Golf Club (800) 406-3936

<http://reemscreekgolf.com>

Black Mountain Golf Course (828) 669-2710

<http://www.blackmountaingolf.org>

Broadmoor Golf Club (800) 238-5795

<http://broadmoorlinks.com>



Asheville & WNC Hikes

Amazingly, we have 3,000+ miles of free public hiking trails near Asheville, including 1,600 miles in the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests, 850 miles in Great Smokey Mountains National Park and many more along the Blue Ridge Parkway and in state parks and forests. Where to begin?

Here are just a few of our favorite hikes near Asheville in North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains. To find the best hiking trails, we evaluated hikes for all skill levels. When selecting hikes and walks, we used the following criteria:

1. The hike is 80 miles or less from downtown Asheville.
2. It is safe, well marked, and not overly strenuous.
3. It does not require any special equipment or shoes.
4. It is easy to locate.

Panoramic Views



Black Balsam

For sweeping 360 degree views, roam the bald mountain tops at Black Balsam Knob. Almost entirely devoid of trees above 6,000 ft, the summit is more reminiscent of New England than North Carolina. Directions from Asheville: *After traveling south for approximately an hour on the Blue Ridge Parkway, look*

for the “Black Balsam” sign. Drive about 8/10 of a mile down the road and look for the trail on the right. Park along the road.





Max Patch

Hike a section of the famous Appalachian Trail on top of Max Patch near Hot Springs. This 4,600 foot mountain was cleared and used as pasture in the 1800's. Today, it's a 350 acre tract of open land on a high knob with 360 degree views. On a clear day, you can see from Mount Mitchell on the east to the great Smokey Mountains to the south. The parking area is near the summit so you can do a short 1.4 mile loop

to enjoy the views on top or you can do a longer loop or head north or south on the Appalachian Trail.

Directions from Asheville: Take I-40 West to Exit 7 (Harman's Den). Take a right on Cold Springs Road which soon becomes gravel. This usually well graded road climbs steadily but never steeply for 6.2 miles to SR-1182 (Max Patch Road). Turn left and drive 1.5 miles to the Max Patch parking area on the right. Allow an hour to drive.



Looking Glass Rock

For 180+ degree views from a rock face, hike Looking Glass Rock in the Pisgah National Forest. It is an especially great hike for the winter months because it's accessible year around (weather permitting) unlike some of the hikes from the Blue Ridge Parkways. The 6.4-mile round trip trail gains 1,700 feet in elevation. It's about a 45 minute drive from downtown Asheville. *Directions from Asheville: Take I-240 West to I-26 East to Exit 40 (Asheville Airport).*

Turn right onto NC-280. Follow this 4 lane highway for 16 miles toward Brevard. At the intersection of US HWY 276 & US HWY 64, turn right onto US-276 West (follow signs for Pisgah National Forest). Follow US 276 for 5.2 miles; turn left onto FR 475. The trail head parking area is on the right after 0.4 miles



Mount Pisgah

A very popular hike is to the top of 5,700 foot Mount Pisgah located 26 miles southwest of Asheville, on the Blue Ridge Parkway. The 3 mile trail (round trip) gains 712 feet in elevation and is steep in spots. Your reward at the top is panoramic views of the North Carolina Mountains, including Cold Mountain.

Directions from Asheville: *Take the Blue Ridge Parkway south to mile post 407.6. Look for a parking area on the left before*

you reach the Pisgah Inn.

Loftiest Hike



Mount Mitchell

This lofty North Carolina hiking trail keeps you above 6,000 feet and takes you over the highest two mountains east of the Mississippi. Go to Mount Mitchell, the highest peak in eastern America at 6,684 feet to hike

the Deep Gap Trail. You drive (yes, drive!) to the top of Mount Mitchell and look for the picnic area near the beginning of the summit parking lot. Deep Gap Trail begins here and descends and climbs through fragrant spruce-fur forests to Mount Craig with panoramic views (about a 2 mile round trip). The trail continues for another 3.5 miles, topping several more peaks. Dress warmly, it's usually about 20 degrees cooler here than in town.

Directions from Asheville: *Take the Blue Ridge Parkway north to mile post 355 about 34 miles from downtown Asheville.*



Waterfall Hike



DuPont State Forest

Forty miles south west of Asheville near Brevard, our top pick is a 3-mile round trip easy hike to three beautiful waterfalls. On this hike, you will visit up to 5 of the 6 major waterfalls in Dupont State Forest. It starts as an easy path to some of the most spectacular waterfalls in the area: Hooker, Triple, and High Falls. Covered picnic shelters with views of the falls make for excellent family

outing possibilities. If you wish to continue to Grassy Creek and Bridal Veil Falls, this will become a moderate hike. You will cross the big covered bridge and pass a beautiful mountain lake on the way. Well worth the extra effort.

Directions from Asheville: Take I-240 West to I-26 East to Exit 40 (Asheville Airport). Turn right onto NC-280. Follow this 4 lane highway for 16 miles toward Brevard. At the intersection of US HWY 276 & US HWY 64, turn left onto US 64 east and drive 3.7 miles. Turn right onto Crab Creek Road. Drive 4.3 miles and turn right on Dupont Road. The road will climb and change names to Staton Road, then begin a long downhill, at the bottom of which is the bridge over Little River. The parking area is on the right just before the bridge. The trail to Triple and High Falls starts on the other side of the bridge.

Highland Hike



Graveyard Fields

It is a gentle hike with little climbing, but you still are rewarded with beautiful views in the mile high valley filled with wild flowers and surrounded by North Carolina mountains with 6,000' peaks. With an easy 4-mile hike, you can see two nice waterfalls: Upper Falls and Second Falls. Arrive early since this is a very popular hiking location.

Directions from Asheville: Take the Blue Ridge Parkway south to mile post 418.8,

about 37 miles south west of downtown Asheville.



History Hike



Rattle Snake Lodge

A favorite hike for locals, the Rattle Snake Lodge Trail is a fun trip back in time. You hike to the ruins of a lodge that was built and enjoyed by many in the early 1900's. It burned in 1926. There are two trails that lead to the site. A 1.4-mile gradual climb from Ox Creek Rd and a ½ mile steep climb from the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Directions from Asheville: From I-240 take Exit 4A for US HWY 19/23 North toward Weaverville. Go 6 miles and take Exit 21 for New Stock Rd. At the end of the road take a right then a quick left then drive past the Ingle grocery store. Go 8/10 of a mile. At the stoplight, turn right onto Reems Creek Road. Go 4 miles and turn right onto Ox Creek Road. Go 3.7 miles to arrive at the parking area on the left. From the parking area, follow the trail for a short distance where it intersects with the Mountains to Sea Trail (White Blaze). Turn left on the trail and head up the switchbacks 1.4 miles to the lodge site.

Best Sidewalk Stroll



The Urban Trail

The Urban Trail in downtown Asheville is a 1.7 mile walking tour with 30 sculptures that depict the history of downtown. Walk half of it, stop for lunch, and then complete your tour. Get a brochure at the Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center or stop by Pack Place by the monument to pick up an audio tour at the art

museum.



Best VIP Hike



Biltmore Estate

Enjoy a variety of hiking trails at Biltmore Estate. If you don't feel special enough exploring this grand setting, get a guided private tour for hiking, biking, birding, or gardening.

Best in Town Nature Walks



North Carolina Arboretum

Just 10 miles south of downtown, the North Carolina Arboretum has several easy to moderate walking trails. Our favorite is the Natural Garden Trail, a 1 mile loop starting from the plants of promise garden to the core area gardens. It is gently graded,

naturally surfaced trail that overlooks Bent Creek and the National Native Azalea Repository.

Directions: Take Exit 2 from I-26 then go south on highway 191 to the Blue Ridge Parkways / Arboretum Entrance. There is a \$12 per vehicle fee.





immediately on your left.

Botanical Gardens at Asheville

For a half mile loop across streams, through meadows, and over a woodland ridge to a wild flower cove with an authentic log cabin, the Botanical Gardens at Asheville is just 3 miles north of downtown, beside the University of North Carolina at Asheville. Admission is free and they are open from dawn to dusk. Directions: *Take Broadway from downtown and turn left on Weaver Blvd. The Gardens are*

Important Notes

- Please be careful near waterfalls and ledges. Rocks and surrounding fauna can be very slippery. Serious injuries, including death, do occur every year.
- Do not block gated entrances with your car.
- Wear brightly colored clothing.
- Certain sections of the Blue Ridge Parkways are closed during winter months. Please check www.blueridgeparkways.org for availability.

